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Repatriation of troops—Coastwise passenger travel conditionally resumed.

June 24.—Information was received during the past week that the Nicaraguan forces had been withdrawn from Honduras. A fleet of four vessels—the *Ometepe*, the *San Jacinto*, the *Tatumbla*, and the *Esfuerzo*—left Ceiba on the 18th instant en route for Bluefields and are to stop at Truxillo and Cape Gracias à Dios. The fleet was expected here on the 24th instant, but failed to arrive. I have received the governor's permission to make an inspection of the troops prior to their landing.

On the 18th instant the fruit steamship *Banan*, from Mobile for Limon, stopped off Bluefields Bar to put off 1 passenger for this port. A native canoe brought him ashore. The vessel did not enter the harbor. No bill of health was issued. No one from the port boarded the ship.

Coastwise passenger traffic on vessels from New Orleans to Bluefields, stopping en route at Cape Gracias à Dios, Nicaragua, was ordered resumed during the past week, provided the Bluefields Steamship Company should guarantee not to carry Nicaraguan troops returning from Honduras.

The steamship *Bluefields*, mentioned in weekly report of the 17th instant as having sailed with 3 passengers from this port for New Orleans, via Bocas del Toro, Panama, left with only 2. One passenger failed to appear at the hour of sailing.

June 27.—The *Ometepe*, the *Esfuerzo*, the *Tatumbla* arrived here on the 25th instant. The fourth, the *San Jacinto*, reached here last night. The first brought 970 troops, the fourth an additional 30 men—a total of 1,000 soldiers.

All 4 vessels started from Puerto Cortez, stopping at Ceiba and Truxillo, Honduras, and Cape Gracias à Dios and Coon Island, Nicaragua. The *Ometepe* called at Coon Island only; the *San Jacinto*, in addition to the ports above named, put in at Prinzapulka, Nicaragua.

Reports are conflicting as to whether or not any men were left at the places named, but the *San Jacinto* landed soldiers at Prinzapulka.

The stop at Coon Island seems to have been made in order to carry out the promise made to Acting Assistant Surgeon Thomas and myself, as no vessel remained there more than 12 hours.

With the exception of the troops brought by the *San Jacinto*—who were 4½ days at sea—none of the men landed here were more than 4 days out from the last Honduran port touched. Those brought by the *Ometepe* were all embarked at Puerto Cortez and were 3 days and 12 hours in reaching here.

In accordance with his promise the Governor sent for Doctor Thornton and myself on the morning of the 25th instant. Arrived at Bluefield's Bluff, we found the *Ometepe's* 800 men lined up on the custom-house wharf and ready to be conveyed to Bluefields. The others, from the *Esfuerzo* and *Tatumbla*, were taken to this city as soon as they had landed.

There was no opportunity for more than a rapid inspection of the troops as they stood at attention, but from what we saw of the

men they were all in good condition and apparently in good health. Only 3 were on the sick list, suffering from ordinary diseases.

At the time of writing the troops have all been mustered out and are fast being returned to the districts from which they were recruited. Already 400 have been sent to the plantations on the Escondido River, 200 leave to-day for Monkey Point (about 25 miles south of Bluefields), and 200 more will follow as soon as transportation can be secured.

Every man (with the exception of the 3 cases mentioned above) landed on the 25th instant participated in the review held the same day and in the street parade that followed.

The general health conditions of the port remain good. I have not seen the 30 men brought by the *San Jacinto* last night.

PANAMA.

Report from Colon—Smallpox on steamship La Normandie.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Scales reports, July 1:

One case of smallpox, 1 suspicious case, and 1 case of varioloid were removed from the steamship *La Normandie* which arrived here yesterday from St. Nazaire with 123 contract laborers and some steerage and cabin passengers.

The three patients were sent to the lazaretto and the contract laborers and steerage passengers to quarantine. The entire personnel were vaccinated, and the baggage of the contract laborers, steerage passengers, and crew was disinfected. The quarters of the crew, contract laborers, and steerage passengers were washed with bichloride of mercury (1:500) and fumigated with sulphur dioxide gas (8 per cent) for 12 hours.

The steamship *La Normandie* during her voyage touched at Guadeloupe, Martinique, and Savanilla.

Report from Bocas del Toro, fruit port.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Osterhout reports as follows:

Week ended June 30, 1907. Present officially estimated population, 4,954; general sanitary condition of this port and the surrounding country during the week, good.

Bills of health issued to the following-named vessels:

Date.	Vessel.	Destination.	Number of crew.	Number of passengers from this port.	Number of passengers in transit.	Pieces of baggage disinfected
June 24	Chickahominy.	New Orleans via Limon	46	0	0	0
26	Helen.....	Mobile	21	2	0	0
27	Mount Vernon.	New Orleans	20	0	0	0
27	Fort Gaines.....	Mobile	22	0	0	0
29	Taunton.....	New Orleans	23	2	0	0
30	Katie	Mobile	23	0	0	0